

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of)

Examiner: G. Jackson)

Harry J. Buncke)

Group Art Unit: 3731)

Serial No.: 859,887)

File No: 447P)

Filed: May 21, 1997)

For: SURGICAL METHODS USING
ONE-WAY SUTURE)

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FEB 25 1999
GROUP 3300

Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

ATTENTION: EXAMINER G. JACKSON

Dear Sir:

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING SENT
VIA FACSIMILE TO FAX NUMBER 703-308-2708

ON Feb 25, 1999

THOMAS M. FREIBURGER REG. NO. 77,063

SIGNED [Signature]DATE 2-25-99AMENDMENT

This amendment follows a telephone interview with Examiner Jackson on today's date. Please amend the application as follows.

In the Claims:

CANCEL claims 27 and 28.

Please amend claim 29 into independent form, as follows:

29 (Amended) [The surgical needle and suture combination
of claim 27, wherein] A surgical needle and suture combination.